

News for Immediate Release

November 23, 2011

Contacts:

DWR Releases Final Phase of Online System for the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released the final phase of the online system for implementation of the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program.

Enacted in 2009 with the passage of Senate Bill X7 6, CASGEM establishes a basis for collaboration between local monitoring parties and DWR to collect groundwater elevation information statewide and make that information available to the public. The legislation does not call for mandatory groundwater regulation; it is a voluntary program.

DWR developed an online system for groundwater management agencies to notify DWR of their intent to become a Monitoring Entity, submit groundwater monitoring plans and well information, submit groundwater elevation monitoring data, generate hydrographs and reports, and view CASGEM data through a GIS map interface.

Monitoring Entities are now able to submit their groundwater elevation data through the Online System. The California Water Code requires that Monitoring Entities submit their first groundwater elevation data by January 1, 2012.

With completion of the Online System, the public now has access to the data submitted to the CASGEM Program. Users will be able to utilize functions such as view the GIS map, search for monitored groundwater basins, designated monitoring entities, and CASGEM wells, and print results from the reports function.

The CASGEM Online System can be accessed at the CASGEM website at http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/casgem.

The Online System includes a user manual to assist users in navigating the system's features.

If you have any questions, contact <u>Mary Scruggs</u> at (916) 654-1324, or any of the following contacts in the DWR Region Offices:

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

Contact the **DWR Public Affairs Office** for more information about DWR's water activities.